product 7 of which the filling level is to be detected is located in the container 6. Mounted in an opening 9 in the cover of the container 6 is the filling-level measuring apparatus 1. High-frequency measuring signals are guided along a waveguide 5 in the direction of the surface 8 of the product 7. Incidentally, a measuring--

Please substitute the last paragraph of page 9 with the following:

--In Figure 4, a side view of a further embodiment of the waveguide 5 according to the invention can be seen. Here, the waveguide 5 comprises a plurality of individual pieces (tubes, rods, etc.) 14, two successive pieces 14 being respectively connected to one another via a flexible intermediate piece 15. The intermediate piece 15 is, for example, a wire cable. The connection 16 respectively between a piece 14 and an intermediate piece 15 is, for example, a universal joint or a crimped connection. To ensure that the attenuation of the high-frequency measuring signals guided along the waveguide 5 is as low as possible, the flexible intermediate piece 15 is enclosed by a tubular mesh 17, the mesh 17 terminating essentially flush with the adjoining surface of the pieces 14.--

Please delete page 10 in its entirety.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-12 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please add the following new claims:

13. (New) An apparatus for determining and/or monitoring the filling level of a product or the position of the interface between two media or phases in a container, comprising:

a signal-generating unit which generates high-frequency measuring signals;

a waveguide which comprises a wire cable having a plurality of individual wires of a predetermined diameter which are twisted together;

a coupling-in unit for coupling in onto said waveguide the measuring signals, and waveguide extending in the direction of the product when the apparatus is mounted on the container; and

a receiving/evaluating unit for determining the filling level of the product or the position of the interface in the container via the delay time of the measuring signals reflected at the surface or interface of the product.

14. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein said receiving/evaluating unit determines the filling level of the product or the position of the interface in the container directly or indirectly.

15. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim13, wherein said waveguide comprises 19 individual wires formed into three layers.

16. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein said individual wires form two layers with the wires in each layer twisted in opposite directions.

17. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein siad waveguide comprises a plurality of coaxial layers, the individual wires in the individual layers being twisted in the same direction.

18. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 17, wherein said waveguide comprises 19 individual wires formed into three layers.

19. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 17, wherein the twisting of the individual wires in the individual layers is in opposite directions.

20. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein the twisting of the individual wires in the individual layers is in opposite directions.

21. (New) An apparatus for determining and/or monitoring the filling level of a product or the position of the interface between two media or phases in a container, comprising:

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a signal-generating unit which generates high-frequency measuring signals;

a waveguide which comprises a plurality of pieces which are connected to one another via at least one flexible intermediate piece;

a coupling-in unit for coupling in onto said waveguide the measuring signals, said waveguide extending in the direction of the product when the apparatus is mounted on the container; and

a receiving/evaluating unit for determining the filling level of the product or the position of the interface in the container via the delay time of the measuring signals reflected at the surface or interface of the product.

22. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 21, wherein said flexible intermediate piece comprises a wire cable.

23. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 21, wherein said flexible intermediate piece comprises a universal joint.

24. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 21, wherein said pieces are tubes or rods.

25. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 24, wherein said flexible intermediate piece comprises a wire cable.

26. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 24, wherein said flexible intermediate

piece comprises a universal joint.

27. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 24, wherein a crimped connection is provided between said piece and said flexible intermediate piece

28. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 27, further comprising:

a tubular mesh which encloses said flexible intermediate piece and which terminates essentially flush with the surfaces of said pieces

29. (New) An apparatus for determining and/or monitoring the filling level of a product or the position of the interface between two media or phases in a container, comprising:

a signal-generating unit which generates high-frequency measuring signals;

a waveguide which comprises a flexible element which is surrounded on its surface by a metal mesh;

a coupling-in unit for coupling in onto said waveguide the measuring signals, said waveguide extending in the direction of the product when the apparatus is mounted on the container; and

a receiving/evaluating unit for determining the filling level of the product or the position of said interface in the container via the delay time of the measuring signals reflected at the surface or interface of the product.

30. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 29, wherein a defect is provided which serves as a reference for the linear measurement in at least one predetermined region of said waveguide

31. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 30, wherein said at least one defect is defined by a change in the geometry of the waveguide.